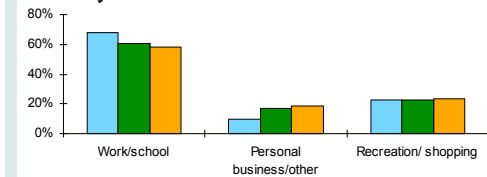


# Origin-Destination Onboard Survey

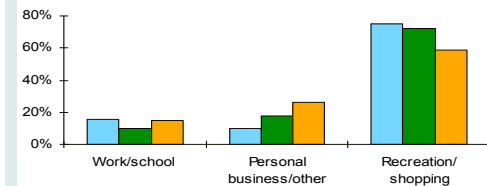
## TRIP PURPOSE

### Weekday Riders



1993 Survey 1999 Survey 2006 Survey

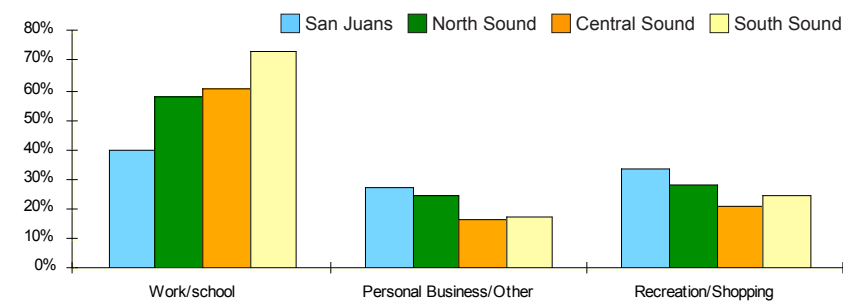
### Weekend Riders



## What is the difference in trip purpose?

- Recreational trips have declined as a percentage of weekend travel.
- Work trips have declined as a percentage of weekday travel.
- Work trips in the San Juan Islands have increased since 1999, but are still lower than in other corridors.
- Work trips in other corridors decreased since 1999.

## CORRIDOR TRIP PURPOSE



# More information

## Read the full report

Review the full Origin-Destination Onboard Survey Report on-line at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/planning/odsurvey.htm](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/planning/odsurvey.htm)

## Questions or comments?

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# Origin-Destination Onboard Survey

# Overview

## What is the Origin-Destination Onboard Survey?

Washington State Ferries (WSF) conducts origin-destination (O&D) surveys every six to seven years as a way to accurately capture and measure the travel patterns of ferry passengers. The last survey was conducted in 1999. The surveys ask passengers about their typical routes, how they get to and from the ferry terminal, and the purpose of their trips.

## How was the survey conducted?

- WSF conducted the surveys onboard more than 300 sailings around the ferry system between October 14 and November 4, 2006.
- The 2006 O&D survey was a comprehensive survey. It evaluated topics such as when people were traveling, what mode of transportation they used, travel origins and destinations.
- From the 31,663 surveys distributed to ferry passengers, WSF received 13,801 survey responses—a significant return rate of over 43 percent.

## What do the results tell WSF?

WSF planners can learn a lot by hearing directly from ferry passengers. By volunteering their time to take the survey, passengers provided answers to some of these important questions that affect WSF's future planning and services:

- Where are passengers traveling to?
- What additional transit options would ferry riders like to see?
- What percentage of passengers drive, bike or walk to or from the ferry?
- How far away do people travel to get to or from a specific ferry run?
- What type of fare do people pay to ride the ferry?
- How many passengers telecommute, and if so, how many days per week?

## How does WSF use the results of the survey?

After WSF collects and analyzes passenger responses to the O&D surveys, the results are used by the agency and decision-makers in a number of ways:

- Matching ferry service with customer needs
- Running an efficient ferry operation
- Informing WSF's long-range service planning
- Providing input to capital improvement needs
- Working with communities on managing local traffic impacts

## WSF CORRIDORS



Survey responses will help WSF understand emerging commute trends, such as telecommuting.



Ferry operations will adapt to our customers' changing needs.

## Systemwide results and key findings



Drivers are paying 39 percent more on average for ferry fares than in 1999 (taking inflation into account).

### How has ridership changed since 1999?

WSF found that the number of ferry passengers changed over the years. From 1993 to 1999, ridership increased by 14 percent. However, from 1999 to 2006, ridership decreased by 10 percent. The average number of weekly trips per rider has also declined since 2006. See below for some of the key differences between the 2006 and 1999 ferry system.

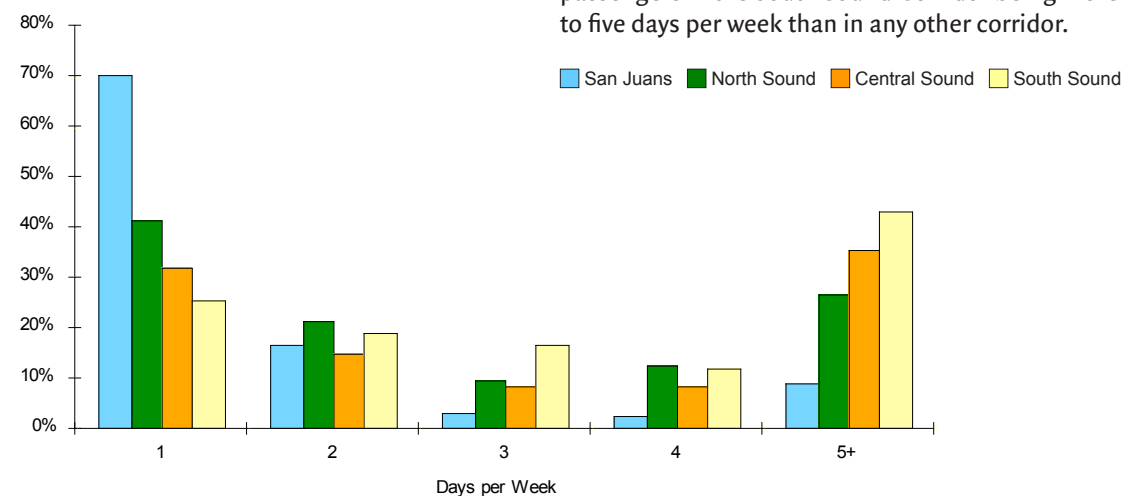
#### 2006 SYSTEM

- 65,300 riders per day (10 percent decrease)
- \$10.49 average vehicle fare (39 percent increase)
- \$5.76 average passenger fare (43 percent increase)

#### 1999 SYSTEM

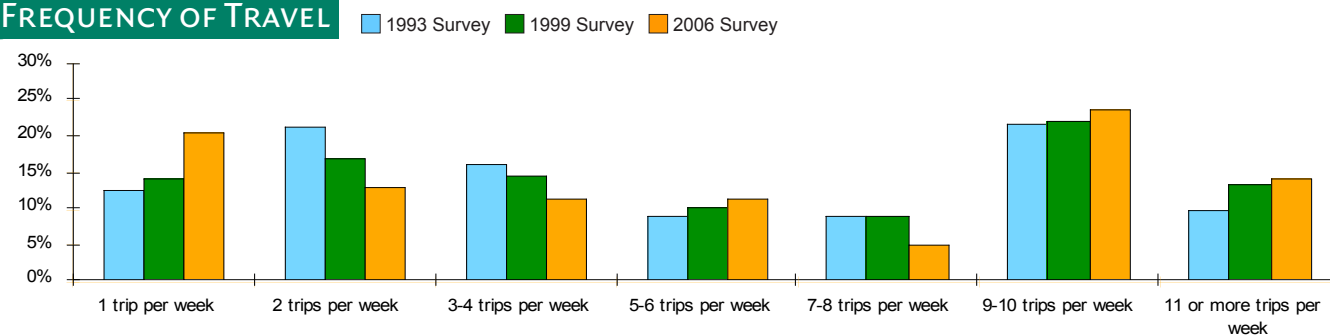
- 72,200 riders per day (63,300 riders per day in 1993)
- \$7.55 average vehicle fare (in 2006 dollars)
- \$4.02 average passenger fare (in 2006 dollars)

### FREQUENCY OF TRAVEL BY CORRIDOR



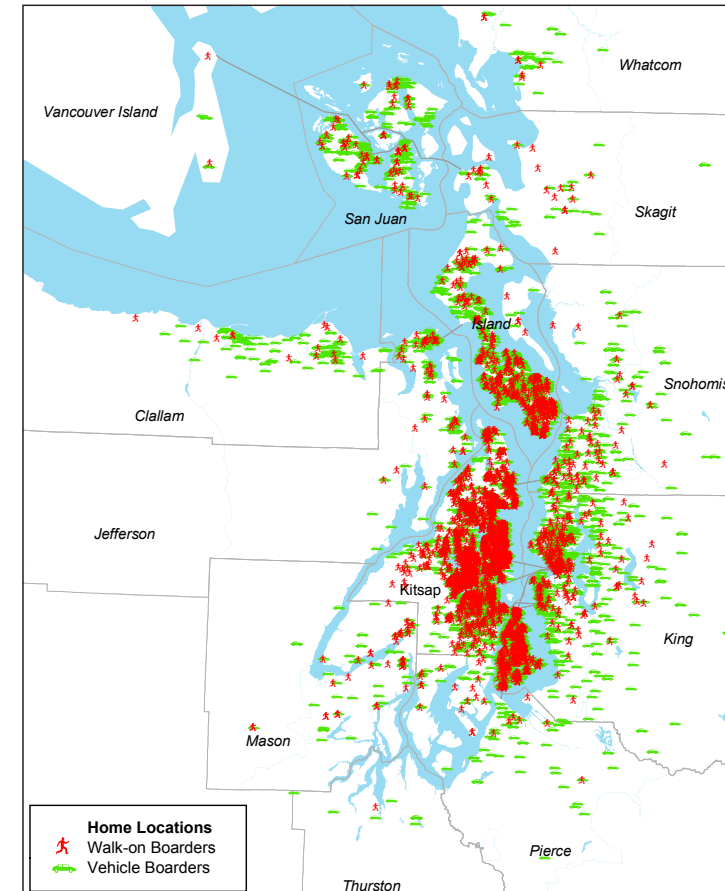
Most weekday travelers now take five or more trips per week, with passengers in the South Sound Corridor being more likely to travel four to five days per week than in any other corridor.

### FREQUENCY OF TRAVEL



### How are people accessing the ferry?

- More weekday riders are boarding in vehicles rather than walking onto the ferry.
- A significant number of people drive and park at their destination terminal in order to walk onto the ferry.

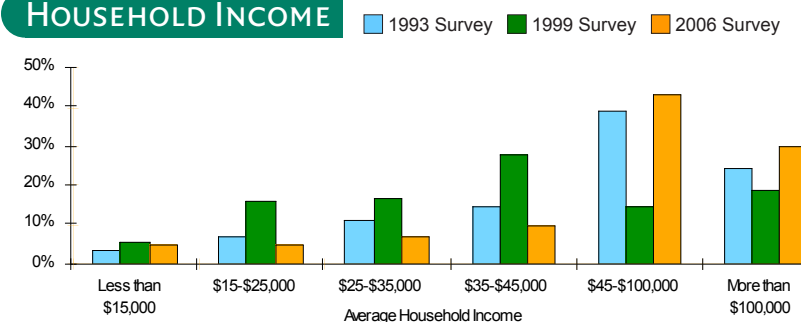


The map above illustrates the boarding mode and origins of weekday ferry riders.

### What are average passenger characteristics?

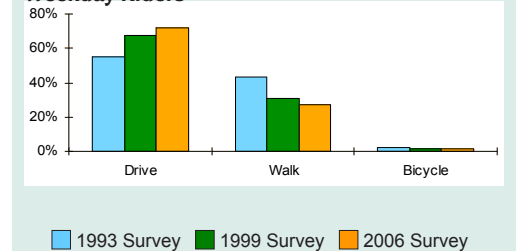
- Most ferry riders in 2006 earn more than \$45,000 per year per household.

### HOUSEHOLD INCOME

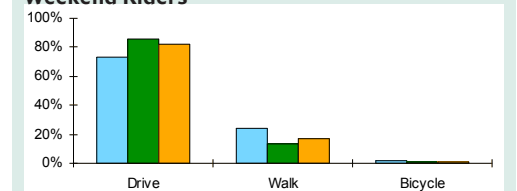


### BOARDING MODE

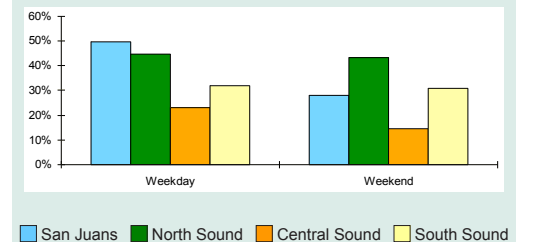
#### Weekday Riders



#### Weekend Riders



### VEHICLES & BIKES AT DESTINATION



Fewer passengers are taking the ferry to work during the week.